fo•cus (fō´kəs): a center of interest and activity Fall 1998

Focus on Morton Grove Public Library

Learn, Read and Connect With a Library Card

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month. We invite you to see what the Morton Grove Public Library has to offer. Sure, we have lots of great books on almost any topic you can imagine, but we also have much more. Choose from a wide variety of CDs and cassettes. Check-out an audiobook, perfect for the daily commute or working around the house. Utilize our Internet access and public computers. Or tap into our reference collection for the latest financial updates, health information or travel materials. Best of all, it's free!

Come in and sign-up for your Library card today. Be sure to ask for your ***free Morton Grove Public Library bag filled with fun treats and useful information***. Celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month with us, and exercise your right to learn, read and connect at the Morton Grove Public Library.

Chicago Botanic Gardens Helps Puts Your Garden to Bed

As winter approaches, it is time to give extra attention to your garden plants to help them enter next spring in peak condition. Let expert staff from the Chicago Botanic Gardens help put your garden to bed with a one hour talk and 30 minute Q & A on **Wednesday, September 9 at 7 p.m.** in the Library's Baxter Room. Learn how to protect trees, shrubs and perennials from the wicked Chicago winter conditions. Prepare your garden for a long winter's nap by learning many important fall season techniques, including mulching, pruning, composting and soil preparation.

Participants will receive handouts for take home reference. This program is free, but pre-registration is necessary. Please call 965-4220 by Tuesday, September 8 to sign-up. The program is limited to 35 participants.

Travel the Great Alaskan Highway

The breathtaking sights of Alaska greet travelers on the famous 1500-mile route of the Alaskan Highway. Veteran travelers David and Rachel Toeppen know the route well. Join them through a professional color movie with music and live narration into U.S. and Canadian cities and inner passage towns. Visit festivals, tundra country, spectacular wilderness and more as you make your way down the highway and its off roads leading to outstanding Alaskan sites. A recent addition to the film includes the viewing of the 100th anniversary reenactment of the Klondike Gold Rush.

The film runs two hours with time for questions afterward. For anyone interested in Alaskan travel or just in the mood for an armchair trip to beautiful natural wonders, this is a must see! Join us in the Library's Baxter Room on **Wednesday, October 14 at 7 p.m.**

See Spooky Halloween Skits

Those Were the Days Radio Players, a group of radio actors who recreate and perform old radio scripts, will present four scary Halloween skits on **Sunday, October 25 at 2 p.m.** in the Library's Baxter Room.

The spooks start with "Cemetery," a horror story of a man returning from the grave. "The Head of a Woman" follows about a Peter Lorie-type character who eats brains. Still not spooked? Two more skits, "Taking Papa Home," about a couple coming home from a retirement party who try to beat a moving train and "A Day at the Dentist," a tale of a dentist's revenge, conclude the performance.

All the skits are from original 1940s radio programs and are performed in their old-fashioned style.

Fall Brings Lyric to the Library: *La Gioconda* and *Mourning* Lectures

Opera buffs, who consistently enjoy the Lyric Opera lecture series at Morton Grove Public Library, can look forward to a great fall lineup of lectures on *La Gioconda* and *Mourning Becomes Electra*.

Learn more about Wagner's *La Gioconda*, a story of passion, treachery, tragedy and revenge set in the splendor of Venetian court, on **Sunday, September 13 at 2 p.m.**

Delve into *Mourning Becomes Electra's* intricate and horrifying plot of adultery, poisoning, stabbing, suicide and family upheaval during a lecture on **Sunday, October 4 at 2 p.m.**

Look for information in the November/December *Focus* on future Lyric Opera lectures at the Library.

MGPL Hours

Mon.-Thurs. 9 - 9
Fri. 9 - 6, Sat. 9 - 5
Sun. (Sept.-May) 1-5

Mark your calendar!

Calendar Summary

September

9/1	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
9/8	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
9/9	We	7:00	Chicago Botanic Gardens
9/10	Th	7:45	Library Board Meeting
9/13	Su	2:00	Lyric Opera Lecture: *La Gioconda*
9/14	Mo	11:00 2:30 & 7:00	Feature Film: *The Horse Whisperer*
9/15	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
9/22	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
9/22	Tu	7:30	Book Discussion Group: The Dream of Water & Shizuko's Daughter by Kyoko Mori
9/24	Th	7:00	Windows 95: Computer Training
9/29	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies

October

10/4	Su	2:00	Lyric Opera Lecture: *Mourning*
10/6	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
10/8	Th	7:45	Library Board Meeting
10/12	Mo.	11:00 2:30 & 7:00	Feature Film: *The Truman Show*
10/13	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
10/14	We	7:00	Alaska Travelogue
10/20	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
10/25	Su	2:00	Those Were the Days Radio Players: Scary Halloween Skits
10/27	Tu	11:30	Lunch Time Movies
10/27	Tu	7:30	Book Discussion Group: Henry and Clara by Thomas Mallon
10/27	Tu	3:45	Babysitting Course I
10/28	We	3:45	Babysitting Course II
10/29	Th	3:45	Babysitting Course III

Check our complete calendar on the Web at http://www.webrary.org/inside/calcurr.html

Programs

September

Chicago Botanic Gardens - Putting Your Garden to Bed: Get great tips and take home handouts on preparing your garden for winter and an abundant spring. Wednesday, September 9, 7 p.m. See story, page 1. Please pre-register for this event by September 9. Limit of 35 people.

Lyric Opera Lecture - *La Gioconda:* Sunday, September 13, 2 p.m. See story, page 1.

Feature Film: *The Horse Whisperer* - Monday, September 14. See page 4 for details.

Windows 95 Computer Training Seminar: Puzzled by Windows 95? Join Jennifer Didier from Banner Training Center on **Thursday, September 24 at 7 p.m.** for a seminar that orients users to the Windows screen; teaches basic desktop skills; instructs on running a single program or multiple programs; teaches cutting, copying and pasting; and shows how to manage documents, format disks, shut down your PC and more. This seminar is free, but limited to 75 participants. Please call 965-4220 by Wednesday, September 23 to pre-register.

October

Lyric Opera Lecture - *Mourning Becomes Electra:* Sunday, October 4, 2 p.m. See story, page 1.

Feature Film: *The Truman Show* - Monday, October 12. See page 4 for details.

Alaska Travelogue: Travel the 1500-mile route of the great Alaskan highway on Wednesday, October 14, 7 p.m. See story, page 1.

Scary Halloween Skits - Those Were the Days Radio Players: Sunday, October 25, 2 p.m. See story, page1.

Babysitting Courses: On October 27, 28 and 29, Bill Porter from the Morton Grove Fire Department will present a series of babysitting courses that include information on safety issues and offer the opportunity to role play potential situations. The class is limited to 15. Participants must be 12 years or older and priority is given to Morton Grove residents. This program is free, but please pre-register by Monday, October 26 by calling or stopping by the Reader's Service desk.

Lunch Time Movies

Pack a brown-bag lunch and head to the Library every **Tuesday at 11:30 a.m.** for Lunch Time Movies. Travel to faraway places, listen to thought-provoking discussions or meet historical figures during this $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour video program.

Book Discussion Group

Thinking Out Loud, the Library's book group, meets **September 22 at 7:30 p.m.** to discuss *The Dream of Water* and *Shizuko's Daughter* by Kyoko Mori. The title for discussion on **October 27 at 7:30** is *Henry and Clara* by Thomas Mallon.

Copies of both books are available on a first-come, first-serve basis at the Reader's Service Desk.

Kids Programs

Summer Reading Club Brings in the Fish

Almost 500 children, ages 3 through grade 6, participated in the 1998 summer reading program, *Fishing for a Good Book*. Children got to know Angie the Anglefish, Goldie the Goldfish and Sheldon the Shark while answering questions about books and playing games to advance and win prizes. Upon completing reports on 10 books, children's names appeared on the Honor Roll, and they received a book of their choice. This program is held each summer, beginning in June. Congratulations to all the children who participated!

Children's Art Contest Winners Announced

Winning artwork from the 25th Annual Children's Art Contest is on display in the stairway gallery leading to the Children's Room. Please stop by to view these colorful and creative creations from artists in preschool through grade 6. The contest is held annually in the spring.

Wanted: Kids' Collections for Children's Room Display Case

Do you have a hobby or collection? Would you like to share it with others? How about displaying your collection in the Children's Room display case?

Recent collections include key chains, Mexican artifacts, Legos, sea shells, McDonald's toys, key chains, handmade Barbie clothes and stickers. Each collection is on display for two weeks.

Large and small cases are available, depending on the size of your collection. Your display is identified with a card indicating your name, grade and school.

Call or stop by the Children's Room to talk with Mrs. Copeland or Mrs. Rund for more information. Please bring a sample of your collection with you to show us.

Kid's Classes

Register for Fall session, beginning September 14 (residents) and September 21 (non-residents). Classes begin October 12 and run through November 13.

Library Playtime for 2 1/2-Year-Olds & Parents
Thursday 10:30 am
Class limit – 12 children, 12 parents.

Pre-School Storytime
Please choose one of the following times for ages 3-Kindergarten:
Wednesday 10:00 am
Thursday 6:45 pm
Class limit – 30

Stories & Stuff
Grades 1-2
Monday 7:00pm
Class limit – 12

Arts & Crafts
Grades 1-3 Mon. 4 pm
Grades 4-6 Fri. 4 pm
Class limit – 15

Creative Writing
Please choose one of the following:
Grades 2-6
Wed. or Thurs. 4 pm
Class limit - 40

Drop-in Storytime
Tuesdays at 1:30. No registration.

Library Receives Gifts Over Summer

Thank you to Barbara Bullen of Morton Grove, whose donation helped make possible the new sound system in the Baxter Room. The new system is a great enhancement to the Library.

We also extend our thanks to Irving B. Levin, who recently made a gift in honor of his two newest great grandchildren and as a thanks for the ongoing programs the Library provides.

Fall Artists' Exhibits at the Library

The following artists will exhibit this fall in the Library's Baxter Room. Please stop by and view their work.

September - Rosh Kagan: Computer-altered photographic images of New York City and Ellis Island.

October - Laura Corona Frohm: Acrylic paintings on canvas and glass depicting the Day of the Dead or All Souls' Day, the Latin American holiday celebrated on November 2.

Films

September

The Horse Whisperer (PG-13 176 min) Set in stunning Montana, this tale of a broken horse and an unforeseen romance stars Robert Redford as Tom Booker, Kristin Scott Thomas as Annie and Scarlett Johansson as Annie's daughter, Grace. After an accident that leaves Grace and her horse Pilgrim forever scarred, Annie seeks help from Booker's "horse whispering" technique. **Mon. 9/14: 11:00, 2:30 & 7:00**

October

The Truman Show (PG 104 min) For 30 years, Truman Burbank led a life of fiction. His family, friends and entire town were fictitious. It was all for the benefit of a billion viewers who watched him on a popular television series. As Truman begins to discover the truth, the process opens the door to complex issues rarely broached by a Hollywood film. **Mon. 10/12: 11:00, 2:30 & 7:00**

Looking for Information? Check-Out a Video

Want to hone your job interview skills or redecorate your home? Check-out our collection of informational videos. Over the summer, more than *70 new videos* joined our permanent collection. Here's a sample of new choices. Come in and choose one today!

Business and Careers
Fundamentals of Effective Selling • Making Unhappy Customers Love You • How to Start and Operate Your Own Business • The Job Interview and You

Recreation and Sports
How to Enjoy Camping From Your Very First Trip • Poker: How to Play and Win • Youth Sports: A Family Guide

Home and Family
Self Defense for Car Expense • Great Wine Adventure • Gourmet Coffee • Building Decks with Scott Schuttner • Learn to Make Slipcovers

Health
Healthy Aging • Stop Back Pain Now • Menopause

Travel
Greece • Austria • China • Mexico • Italy • The Low Countries • and more...

Stop by the Reader's Service Desk to pickup a free brochure with a complete listing of new informational videos.

Reference Round-up

Back-to-School Pocket Reference Guide

(Clip out, visit the Library and use often!)

The Library's Reference Department is ready to begin the school year with many new resource books to aid students in their assignments.

Is a science project on your agenda? ***Science Projects for ALL Students*** contains a variety of project ideas to get you started. The 15 volumes of the ***Elements*** series is invaluable for students researching one of the elements for science class.

Giving a class speech makes many students anxious. One way to avoid an embarrassing pronunciation mistake is to check the ***Pronouncing Dictionary of Proper Names***. How do you say "Turandot," anyway?

Turning in a writing assignment with politically sensitive terms proves easier after consulting ***Talking About People: A Guide to Fair and Accurate Language.***

Students learning ancient history will find ***The Cambridge Illustrated History of Ancient Greece*** full of detailed information.

In addition to the above titles, the Library acquires the latest editions of these useful student resources: ***World Book Encyclopedia • The World Almanac and Book of Facts • Statistical Abstract of the United States • Occupational Outlook Handbook***.

Good luck with a new school year and all your class projects!

Focus is published five times a year by the Morton Grove Public Library, 6140 Lincoln Ave., Morton Grove, IL 60053-2989. It is sent free of charge to all Morton Grove residents. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, but don't live in Morton Grove, leave your name and address at the Reader's Service Desk.

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